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LETTER DATED 17 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I transmit herewith a copy of the statement issued by the Council of Ministers at dawn today, Thursday, 2 Rajab A.H. 1411, corresponding to 17 January A.D. 1991, under the chairmanship of His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al Sabah, following the beginning of military operations to liberate Kuwait.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement issued on 17 January 1991 by the Council of Ministers of the State of Kuwait

"And say: 'The truth has come, and falsehood has vanished away; surely falsehood is ever certain to vanish.'"

The Council of Ministers met at dawn today, Thursday, 2 Rajab A.H. 1411, corresponding to 17 January A.D. 1991, under the chairmanship of His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al Sabah, following the beginning of military operations to liberate Kuwait, and issued the following statement:

The Council has followed the commencement of operations to liberate Kuwait from the defilement of iniquitous Iraqi aggression, as well as the statements relating to these operations. In expressing its appreciation and gratitude to all those fraternal and friendly States which took part and are taking part in the liberation operation, the Council affirms the legitimacy of this war and its necessity for the liberation of Kuwait. It underscores the principle of international legitimacy, as embodied in the implementation of Security Council resolutions and respect for the precepts of international law and customs, now that the entire world has exhausted all possible means to ensure the peaceful withdrawal of the Iraqi aggressor forces from Kuwait.

By virtue of its vanity and arrogance, the Iraqi régime deliberately closed the doors to all well-intentioned endeavours, the most recent of which was that undertaken by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Over five months have passed since the beginning of the hated occupation, and the international community had to implement its resolutions to expel that régime by force from all Kuwaiti territories and to reinstate the legitimate authority by means of a decisive military operation designed to restore the rule of justice and to relieve the defiant Kuwaiti people - who have suffered and endured every form of brutality, killing and torture in a manner which contravenes all the precepts of international law, human rights and divine religions - from injustice and tyranny.

We cannot fail on this auspicious occasion to express our great appreciation for the historic address delivered this morning by the United States President, George Bush, which properly reflects the stand taken by him and the noble people of the United States in support of human justice and international legitimacy.

We are yet prouder because Kuwaitis took an active part in the liberation operations, with their hearts filled with faith in God, trust in His assistance, devotion to their dear country and readiness to expend what is most precious to them in order to defend its territory.

We pray that God will support the soldiers of justice and truth and grant them victory: He possesses that power.